

REMARKS

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-25, 27, and 28 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 3, 9, 12, 24, and 25 are the independent claims.

Claim 26 has been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 1, 3, 9, 12, 21, 22, 24, and 28 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Initially, Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that claims 3-6, 8-10, 20-24, and 26-28 recite patentable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the features of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. By the present Amendment, Applicant has rewritten claims 3, 9, and 24 in independent form to include all of the features of their respective base claims, there being no intervening claims. Also, Applicant has cancelled claim 26 and rewritten claim 25 in independent form to recite all of the features of its base claim as well as those of cancelled claim 26. Thus, it is submitted that independent claims 3, 9, 24, and 25 are allowed. Claims 4-6, 10, 27, and 28 variously depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 3, 9, and 25. Thus, it is also respectfully submitted that these dependent claims now in condition for allowance.

Regarding independent claims 1 and 12, Applicants have amended these claims to even more clearly define the function of the sliding holder and holder, respectively.

The Office Action asserts that the pushing plate 40 corresponds to the claimed sliding holder. Applicant respectfully submits that the downward bearing by pushing plate 40 on the disc-cartridge 80 is not opposite to the direction in which the disc-cartridge 80 is inserted.

Further, to suggest modifying Choi to correspond to the claims would render the device in Choi unsatisfactory for its intended purpose, since pushing plate 40 would no longer stably fix disc-cartridge 80 on turntable 90.

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1 and 12 under § 102 are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims patentably define the present invention over the citations of record. Further, the dependent claims should also be allowable for the same reasons as their respective base claims and

further due to the additional features that they recite. Separate and individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action. However, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to such matters.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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